

Minutes

Western Regional Council Meeting

31 July 2003
Garden-of-Eat'n
Beaver, Utah

Attendance:	Doug Peterson	Craig Greathouse	Roland Miles
	Paul Moorman	Linda Gale	David Kinder
	Jan Thompson	Keith Gillins	Karen Alvey
	Chad Johnson	Larry Pearson	Loya Garrett
	Rich VanAusdal	Wayne Shamo	Lis Barker
Youth council:	Brad Neufeld	Rebecca Cox	Greg Muller
Guests:	Richard Nelson	Terry Lisonbee (DWS)	Eric Werny (Digital Rapids)
	Brenda Martin (DWS)	Sarah Olius (CCRR)	
DWS Staff:	Ann Barnson	Wayne Fillmore	Roger Halladay
	Liz Lobato	Katherine Leydsman	Jolene Bundy
Minutes:	Jolene Bundy		

Welcome: Karen Alvey – substituting for Kristie McMullin.

Karen welcomed everyone and introduced 2 new members of the council. Paul Moorman is from Ephraim and is Manager of Walmart in Ephraim. Craig Greathouse is the County Commissioner for Millard County and will be taking John Coopers place on the Council. We have two new members who are not here today. Dale Peel is from Peel Furniture Works in Mount Pleasant, and Travis Ludlow is from Ludlow Engineering in Nephi.

Employer Recognition: - Karen Alvey

Karen welcomed Eric Werny from Digital Rapids. He was nominated for the award as an Outstanding Employer by Brenda Martin of the St. George Employment Center. Karen turned the time over to Brenda who introduced Eric. She said Eric has been a great asset to the Employment Center by helping them with interviews when they do their Job Skills Workshops. He interviews the Workshop Participants as an Employer would do and helps the participants know what they need to do to get a job and how to do an interview for a job. He gives much of his time in helping these customers get employed. Eric then told a little about his company and why he is willing to give of his time to do this. Karen presented a plaque to Eric to show our appreciation for his time and efforts in helping the St. George Employment Center.

Minutes:

Karen presented the Minutes from the last meeting of April 24, 2003 and called for a motion of approval. Doug Peterson made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Keith Gillins seconded the motion. The motion carried with unanimous approval.

Committee Reports:

Executive Committee: - Keith Gillins - Chair

Keith reported they had a proposal from Terry Lisonbee, Manager of the Fillmore and Delta Employment Centers, to make a change in the time the Fillmore Employment Center is open. Because of a loss of Employees at the Fillmore office, there is now only one employee at that office. They do not want only one employee there for security and safety reasons and also to provide better service for the customers. For this reason, it is proposed that the Fillmore Office be open only 3 days a week, on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday and from 9:00 am until 4:00 pm. An Employee from either the Delta Office or the Nephi Office will come on those 3 days to help with coverage in the Fillmore Office. It was brought out that Millard is the only rural county in the state with 2 Employment Centers and they are only 30 miles apart. The Delta and Fillmore offices tracked the services and the customers at each center and know that the percentage of business shows the most service is in Delta office by about 2 to 1. (A copy of the report showing the number of work hours provided at the Delta and Fillmore Offices was passed out to the council.) They will have the phone number for the Fillmore office transferred to the Delta Office so on the days the office is not open the customers can still have their phone calls answered. There will be no change in the Delta Office. Jan said they really didn't need a vote for approval but they would like their support. Rich made a motion to support the Delta and Fillmore office in closing the Fillmore office on Tuesdays and Thursdays and in shortening the hours to 9:00 am to 4:00 pm on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday. Keith seconded the motion if he could get a clarification that there would be 2 people in the Fillmore office during the office hours. Terry said they would have 2 people there all the time. Keith said that was okay and he would second the motion then. The motion was approved.

Karen said they have another award they would like to present. John Cooper, County commissioner for Millard County, is being replaced on our council by Craig Greathouse. The County Commissioners in Millard County have changed their responsibilities and Craig will now take over the responsibilities of the Region Council. They would like to thank John for his time and efforts to the Region Council, especially his driving efforts on the Corrections Committee to get a program started in each of the correctional facilities in the region to do Life Skills Workshops to inmates prior to their release back into the public life. He has been the driving force behind this and they appreciate him very much. John was not there but Karen read a letter from John thanking the council for their support and stating how much he has enjoyed working them. Karen gave the plaque for John to Craig and asked him to present it to John on our behalf. Karen also suggested that Craig take John's place on the Corrections Committee.

Jan said in other business she attended the 4th meeting in Rural Utah about Medical Coding and the Smart Sites. She said this is an up and coming Career area for Rural Utah, thinking they can do this from their home. However, we are finding out that it will take more time to get employment in this field than was originally thought. They are finding out that Employers are hesitant to hire those working from their homes because of security and confidential issues related to that field. They have one group that has completed the training, one now in training, and one in the pre-requisites for the training. Workforce Services does not have any customers that have completed the training where we paid for the training. However, we do have one in training now that we are paying for. The good part is that the skills are transferable to other

areas for gaining employment. This doesn't solve the issue of working from their homes. The training is through the College of Eastern Utah and most are taking the class so they can work from their home. After this class is completed, they will not offer another class until this issue is resolved. Of the 35 students taking the course, none are certified because of gaps in the training. All these issues need to be worked out. Jan said the Sevier Smart Site, that offers this training, has contracted with companies to work through the Smart Site, rather than the individuals working at home. Passing the test is very difficult and they are required to pass with a 96% to be certified. Greg Muller thought they should have something like a 6 month probationary period to prove themselves and this should be included as part of the training for certification. Jan said they will keep working on these issues and let us know.

Youth Council – Greg Muller, Chair

Greg introduced Becky Cox. He said she has a lot of resources, working extensively with the Youth in Washington County, especially the Youth-at-Risk, and with the needs of the Youth of the Region. She has been asked to serve as a member of the Youth Council. Cheryl Cox has also been asked to serve as a member of the Youth Council. Cheryl is a counselor at Dixie High School. Greg made a motion to approve Becky and Cheryl as new members of the Youth Council. Wayne Shamo seconded the motion. The motion was approved by the Council.

Greg said they had an update by WinField Kids, the Youth Services provider, in regards to the Summer Youth Employment Program. Greg said because the WIA Reauthorization changes are proposing changing the funding to 70% to Out-Of-School Youth, Winfield Kids is shifting their focus to work more with out-of-school youth. In order to do this, the youth council would like to make a motion to change the Priority Rating System to include Veterans and Disabled Veterans. The Priority Rating System is used to decide which youth will be placed in the WIA Program. The ages of the Youth currently goes to 21 and the reauthorization proposes to change that to 24 years old. For this reason, they propose adding Veterans and Disabled Veterans as barriers on the rating system. This system requires that they have 6 points total to qualify for the program. Chad questioned the 6 points. Ann explained that most youth who have barriers will average at least 6 points. Those below 6 points will be referred to other DWS programs and other resources in the community. They questioned why they want to add Veterans. Ann said the age for youth served goes from 14 to 21. This could very well include veterans, especially in the current situation the country is in. Chad seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Sue Kimball presented a program to the Youth Council called Youth Build. This is a grant program which provided \$400,000 for out-of-school youth to help build low income housing in the area. The council felt this would work great with our goal of working with the out-of-school youth by providing them with construction skills as well as providing low income housing. They felt this would be a great program to work through Dixie ATC. Rich VanAusdal agreed and thought it would be a good program for the college. They agreed that this is something they would look into and see if they can get the application for the grant in place for when the grant will be issued next spring.

Marketing and Employer Taskforce Committee – Liz Lobato

Lis said they are mailing out an Employer Newsletter in Washington County called the ***Executive Summary***. Right now it is only for Washington County Employers. A copy of this

was mailed to each of the Regional Council Members. If they have any articles they would like to see in this newsletter, she encouraged them to send it to Kimberly Johnson at the St. George EC or to the Spectrum. They are hoping to soon have this available to all areas of the region. They are also working on their Brochure to pass out to the public with the DWS information on. It has been approved and will soon be available. They are continuing in ways to get the DWS web-site information out to the community.

Corrections Taskforce Committee – Roger Halladay

Roger said he would like to thank John again for his hard work and for being involved in the Life Skills Grant. In the last meeting they reported they were going to apply for a grant to fund a Life Skills Program in the correctional facilities for inmates prior to being released. At the last minute they decided not to apply for the grant because Belle Brough had concern that the Department of Workforce Services was including Ultimate Performance Institute (WFK) and Covenant Job Supportive Services LLC in on the Life Skills Grant Application as they are not approved by the State Correctional Board even though they are approved as service providers for DWS. Her feeling is that we would have to do it by RFP even though these two service providers are under contract with DWS to provide services. They liked the idea we have and are now willing to work with us to help us with the program and get funding for it. The 13 week Pilot Project the Council approved is in it's 9th week and they are expecting to start getting feed back now on how the program is working. They have been able to cover all 11 counties and will get feed back in a month. The program covers 10 subjects. With feed back from this Pilot Project, we expect to use that information to apply for a grant in the future.

Vendor Committee – Karen Alvey, Chair

Karen reported the Vendor Committee had a telephone conference call on July 14th regarding an application by Dixie Applied Technology College (ATC) as a Training Vendor. The Committee approved Dixie ATC as a Vendor. Each of the Regional Council Members were called for their vote and it was approved by the Council. It went before the State Council and was approved. It is now an approved training provider. Even though each was called, they would like an official motion of approval from the Regional Council. Chad made a motion to approve Dixie ATC as a training Vendor. Loya Garrett seconded the motion. The motion was approved by the council.

Council of Councils

The Annual Council of Councils will be October 9 and 10 at the University of Utah Park Hotel in Salt Lake City. The Regional Council was given the opportunity to suggest breakout sessions and subjects for discussion for the meeting. We had some great ideas turned in and they were sent on to Salt Lake.

The State Council also requested nominations for Outstanding Performance in 4th areas. These are to be awarded at the Council of councils. The four areas are:

- WIA Youth Customer
- WIA Adult/Dislocated Worker Customer
- Area Business/Employer
- TANF Customer

We encourage you to nominate someone in these areas. Two from each region will be selected for recognition at the Council of Councils. Eric, from Digital Rapids that was here today, is one

of those nominated last year. Because they were not able to recognize all of them at the Council of Councils last year, we chose to recognize a couple of them at each of our Regional Council Meetings until they have now all been recognized for their outstanding performance by our council. We would like to do that again this year. Roger encouraged them to send in their nominations by email to him or to Ann by tomorrow because they need time to select the ones they will send into the Salt Lake Office by the deadline.

DWS Annual Report / Highlights – Roger Halladay

Roger reported that a member of the State Legislature ask for highlights from the different Regional Councils. In response to that, he put together a letter to Monteen Gordon which told some of the significant events the Western Regional Council has been involved in during the last year. (A copy of this letter is in the Council Book.) There are other events. This was just a few he thought about and selected. Now it is time for the Annual DWS Report. They also need some of the significant events we have been involved in. If you have any others you would like to mention besides what is in the letter, please let us know.

Child Care Provider Recognition/Presentation – Lis Barker

Lis reported that part of the 1000-day Workforce Services Plan we did for the Governor, was to recognize the Child Care Providers of the region. This is what they are doing today. A list of the providers receiving the Provider Achievement award is found in the council book. Lis has done a certificate for each of the providers and Karen and Keith has signed them. They will be sent to each provider. Lis said most of those in rural Utah are in Family Child Care. This is a hard and demanding occupation. It requires they are on duty, many times for 12-14 hours a day or more, day after day. They don't get holidays, or vacation days. Many of them don't have an education. She said the child care services during the child's early nurturing years are very important. The Child Care Resource and Referral office (CCR) has developed a Career Ladder Program. Lis showed a presentation on how the Career Ladder works, the Training incentives, and the rewards. On the program they are given Bonus's as they accomplish each level of training. Lis said a high turnover in child care providers can be very detrimental to a child and this encourages longevity for the providers. The CCR office will pay for their training at a cost of \$15.00 for each course. The funding comes from a Federal Block Grant which is Quality Improvement Money. Lis reported we are leading the nation with this program and there are several states looking at implementing this program.

Karen said she wanted to recognize Lis and her group for the outstanding work they do. She said they are very innovative and creative and have put Utah as probably the #1 state in the nation in Child Care.

Reports

Kathy Leydsman went over the reports in the Council Book.

She reported the Core and Business Services report shows that the number of Employers and Job Seekers using the Internet Web Page is increasing showing that the word about the web page is getting out and customers are using it. In the Employment Services report you can see the numbers of TANF customers, and training customers. Two of these programs, TANF and WIA are now under reauthorization in congress and we don't know how that will affect the numbers

and how we operate the programs. The trend in the new authorization will be to require more on the job training.

Wayne went over the Budget reports. There are 4 reports. The first shows the Western Region expenditure forecast which shows a projected surplus of \$370,447. The regional Council budget was \$29,600 of which we have a surplus of \$11,353. The 3rd report is the Motor Pool report. Because our region is the largest in the state, we have more vehicles than any other region. We contract with the State for the vehicles and the contract includes the costs for 1250 miles for each car. We are responsible to keep the mileage and make sure the mileage is spread out evenly throughout the cars so they average the 1250 miles as close as possible. This report shows the miles used for each vehicle each month and the number of vehicles for each office. The 4th report is the Budget Request for the FY 2004 of \$10,307,470 which is very close to last years Budget.

Other Business: - Karen

Karen asked if there was any other business or Public Comment. There was none.

Keith made the Motion to Adjourn. David Kinder seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned.